DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 398 509 CG 027 293

TITLE	Men against Violence: Forming Your Own Chapter.
INSTITUTION	Louisiana State Univ., Baton Rouge.
PUB DATE	[96]
NOTE	36p.; Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American College Health Association (74th, Orlando, FL, May 29-June 1, 1996).
PUB TYPE	Reports - Descriptive (141) -- Speeches/Conference Papers (150)
EDRS PRICE	MF01/PC02 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	College Students; Crime Prevention; Higher Education; *Males; *Prevention; *Program Development; Program Implementation; School Security; Student College Relationship; Student Participation; *Violence
IDENTIFIERS	*Louisiana State University Baton Rouge; *Pacifism

ABSTRACT

Men Against Violence, a non-profit student organization at Louisiana State University, is described in this packet of materials. The organization is devoted to four goals: (1) promote awareness about the prevalence and causes of violence on campus; (2) engage in community action to reduce violence on campus through policy revision and cultural change; (3) educate others on how to prevent violence; and (4) provide intervention and support for survivors of violence. The group's constitution is reproduced here, along with its history and mission statement. Also detailed is how individuals can begin a Men Against Violence group chapter on their own campus. Organizers should encourage a group that is diverse in terms of race, ethnicity, age, individual interests and other factors. A special section, "Lessons Learned from the Field," details the rewards and experiences that can be expected, and also discusses how violence is an issue that affects everyone. Further information which may be useful for forming a group, includes a time line for forming a chapter, a training retreat schedule, and reports detailing activities of a local chapter over a two semester period. Finally, selected newspaper articles, which report some of the coverage of the group's events, are included. (RJM)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

ED 398 509

PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE AND DISSEMINATE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY
L. Hong
TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

Men Against Violence

Louisiana State University

"Stop the Hate, Increase the Peace"

249 Student Health Center, Baton Rouge, LA 70803
(504) 388-5718 Fax (504) 388-5655

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)
☐ This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.
☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.
• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.

American College Health Association
74th Annual Meeting
May 29 - June 1, 1996 ♦ Orlando, FL

Forming Your Own Chapter

CG027293

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Table of Contents

	page
History and Mission	1
Constitution	3
Beginning a *Men Against Violence* Chapter on Your Campus	9
Lessons Learned from the Field	13
Timeline: Forming a *Men Against Violence* Chapter	15
Spring 1996 Training Retreat Schedule	17
Fall 1995 Semester Report	19
Spring 1996 Semester Report	22
Selected Newspaper Articles	25

History and Mission

Motivated by concern about the violence on campus, a group of 15 charter members representing a cross-section of students came together and formulated the idea for a service organization dedicated to combatting harassment, fights, vandalism, domestic violence, and sexual assault. Supported by an advisory board of LSU staff, these charter members founded ***Men Against Violence*** in Spring 1995. At the Kick-Off Ceremony held on Wednesday, April 5, 1995 in the LSU Union, Gerry DiNardo, LSU Football Head Coach, told potential members, "If you have been in a home with violence, it is an opportunity to break the cycle. If you are from a home without violence, it is a chance to continue the trend."

Charter Members

Chris Aamodt, Student Health Advocates
Ofori Agboka, LSU Football
Scott Barker, Air Force ROTC
Tim Black, Air Force ROTC
Ruark Chick, LSU Ambassadors
Cem Fide, Residential Life
Willie Harris, National Pan-Hellenic Council
Craig Johnson, Dean of Students Office
Chad Lemoine, Residential Life
Vincent Littrell, Air Force ROTC
Stephen Moret, Student Government
Gabe Northern, LSU Football
Donnie Pulliam, Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity
Carlos Turcios, Residential Life
Kevin Ward, LSU Baseball

Advisory Board

Richard Collier, Department of Residential Life
Wanda Hargroder, Division of Recreational Sports
Luoluo Hong, Wellness Education Department
Tommy Karam, Academic Center for Athletes
Kathy Marcel, Office of Greek Affairs
Bud Richey, Dean of Students Office
Mark Shaw, Police Department
Warren Smith, Office of Human Resource Management
Drayton Vincent, Mental Health Service

Men Against Violence received official recognition as a student organization on April 26, 1995. The group is the first of its kind and scope in the Southeastern Conference. While membership is open to both male and female students, ***Men Against Violence*** intends to emphasize the unique responsibility that men have in identifying and eradicating violence on LSU's campus and in the surrounding community. In keeping with its mission, ***Men Against Violence*** is proactively engaged in four areas:

(1) Promoting **awareness** through media campaigns about the prevalence and causes of violence on campus.
(2) Engaging in **community action** to reduce violence on campus through policy revision and cultural change.
(3) Conducting **education** on how to prevent violence.
(4) Providing intervention and **support** for survivors of violence.

Men Against Violence is a non-profit student organization, . The operating budget is subsidized by member dues, T-shirt sales and generous monetary and in-kind contributions from various sponsors.

Sponsors

Interfraternity Council
Panhellenic Council
Residence Hall Association
Student Government
Student Health Center
Tiger Athletic Foundation

Constitution

Preamble

We, the charter members of the Men Against Violence, recognize the dilemma of violence in all of its forms. We believe that violence among the students, faculty, and staff of Louisiana State University seriously impairs the high missions of the university, and that any improvement in this area would be of great benefit to the entire LSU community. It is our hope in establishing this organization that some progress may be made to curb violence at LSU, and possibly that our efforts here may provide other universities with inspiration to attempt similar efforts.

Article I: Name

The name of this organization shall be the "Men Against Violence" of Louisiana State University at Baton Rouge.

Article II: Purpose

Section 1. The primary purpose of the Men Against Violence is to reduce the frequency and severity of violent acts among the students, faculty, and staff of Louisiana State University.

Section 2. The primary purpose of the Men Against Violence shall be carried out through concentration on four primary areas ("ACES"), as follows"

1. **Awareness** -- by communicating the scope of violence within the LSU community to the students, faculty, staff, and administration.
2. **Community Action** -- by promoting worthwhile programs and policies at LSU which would significantly reduce violence.
3. **Education** -- by conducting seminars, sponsoring lectures, and holding discussion sessions in order to promote a better understanding of violence, its causes and remedies.
4. **Support** -- by providing intervention and assistance to victims of violence.

Section 3. The secondary, long-term purpose of the Men Against Violence is to promote the establishment of similar organizations at other universities, so that what is accomplished at LSU may be of benefit to other schools, as well.

Article III: Membership and Dues

Section 1. Any individual who subscribes to the purposes and basic policies of the Men Against Violence may become a member of the organization, subject only to compliance with the provisions of this constitution.

Section 2. Active membership is restricted to LSU students/ Associate membership is restricted to LSU faculty and staff. Associate members are non-voting members.

Section 3. The Men Against Violence shall conduct a membership drive at the beginning of each semester, but persons may be admitted to membership at any time.

Section 4. Each member of the organization shall pay annual dues each academic year. The amount of these dues shall be $10.00. Only members who have paid their dues for the academic year shall be considered in good standing with the organization.

Section 5. Only members in good standing with the organization shall be eligible to participate in its business meetings or to serve in any of its elective or appointive positions.

Section 6. In the event this organization becomes inactive, any monies left in the treasury after all outstanding debts and claims have been paid will be donated to the Wellness Education Department of the LSU Student Health Center, for the purposes of promoting violence prevention efforts.

Article IV: Officers and Their Election

Section 1. The officers of the Men Against Violence shall be an Overall Coordinator, four program team chairmen, a secretary, a public relations director, and a treasurer.

Section 2. The officers shall be elected annually by majority vote at the last regular business meeting of the organization; if none of the nominees for a specific position gets a majority of the vote on the first ballot, a runoff shall be held between the two who received the highest vote totals.

Section 3. A vacancy occurring in any office shall be filled for the unexpired term by a person elected by majority vote of the remaining members of the executive committee.

Section 4. The Overall Coordinator shall preside at all meetings of the organization and executive committee; shall establish the meeting schedule and meeting agenda of the organization and the executive committee, subject to approval by the executive committee; shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed in the constitution or are assigned by the membership of the executive committee; and shall assist the program team chairmen in the accomplishment of their work.

Section 5. The four program team chairmen shall be responsible for facilitating the work of each of their respective teams; shall establish the meeting times of their respective teams; and shall perform such other work as directed by the executive committee.

Section 6. The secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings of the organization and of the executive committee and shall perform such other duties as may be delegated.

Section 7. The public relations director shall be responsible for issuing press releases and for representing the organization in a positive light to the campus and local media.

Section 8. The treasurer shall receive all monies of the organization; shall keep accurate records of the receipts and disbursements; shall pay out funds in accordance with the directives of the executive committee. The treasurer shall present a financial statement at every meeting of the organization and at other times when requested by the executive committee.

Article V: Executive Committee

Section 1. The membership of the Executive Committee shall consist of the officers of the organization and the advisor, who shall be non-voting.

Section 2. The duties of the Executive Committee shall be to recruit and approve the membership of each Program Team; to approve the plans of work of each Program Team Chairman; to approve any expenditure of organization funds; to transact necessary business of the organization between meetings and such business as may be referred to it by the organization; and to present a report at each regular meeting of the organization.

Section 3. Regular meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held bi-weekly during the academic year, with the time of the meetings determined by the Committee at its first meeting of the year. A majority of the Executive Committee present shall constitute a quorum. Special meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the Overall Coordinator or by a majority of the Executive Committee.

Article VI: Program Teams

Section 1. There shall be four Program Teams of the organization, whose purpose collectively shall be to carry out the primary purpose of the Men Against Violence. It is the intent of this constitution that these Teams will be the core "action groups" of the organization. Participation in a Program Team by members of the organization should be considered an important responsibility. Although the entire membership of the Men Against Violence will be involved in accomplishing the purpose of the organization, it is the Program Teams that will form the foundation for these efforts.

Section 2. The membership of each Program Team shall be determined by the Executive

Committee, subject to members' preferences and expressed time commitment. Each Program Team shall have a minimum of five student members (including the chairman). Additionally, each Program Team will also have a staff or faculty advisor to aid in carrying out its purpose.

Section 3. Members of the organization may serve on a maximum of two Program Teams; this should be considered an exception, valid only when an individual clearly has ample time to carry out the responsibilities of being involved with two Team.

Section 4. The names of the four Program Teams ("ACES"), their purposes, and examples of projects which could be undertaken are as follows:

1. **Awareness Team.** The purpose of this Team is to communicate the scope of violence within the LSU community to the students, faculty, staff, and administration. Projects could include, but would not be limited to T-shirt sales, posting of informative fliers, writing letters to the editor, etc.

2. **Community Action Team.** The purpose of this Team is to promote worthwhile programs and policies at LSU which would significantly reduce violence. The Team could do research to determine policies that have worked well at other universities, and could recommend these policies for adoption at LSU. This Team could propose university programs which would help[to reduce violence on campus.

3. **Education Team.** The purpose of this Team is to promote a better understanding of violence, its causes, and its remedies. The Team should conduct informative seminars, sponsor lectures, hold discussion sessions, etc.

4. **Support Team.** The purpose of this Team is to provide intervention and assistance to victims of violence. Specific programs could be developed with the assistance of the Wellness Education department and Mental Health Service.

Section 5. All of the Program Teams should make efforts to include all members of the organization in their activities, whenever practical. However, the members of each Program Team must take ultimate responsibility for the accomplishment of their objectives.

Article VII: Special Committees

Such special committees shall be created by the Executive Committee as may be required to promote the objectives and interests of the organization; however, these should be formed only in cases where an existing Program Team could not adequately accomplish the desired result. The purpose, membership, and duration of any special committees created shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

Article VIII: Meetings

Section 1. Regular meetings of the organization shall be held at least once per month during the academic year, with the time, place, and date determined by the Executive Committee.

Section 2. Each meeting of the organization should include a discussion of ongoing and proposed projects, reports from each Project Team, and any recent or ongoing developments related to violence in the LSU community. Efforts should be made by the Overall Coordinator and Executive Committee to make the meetings enjoyable and informative. Each meeting should be seen as an opportunity to develop a greater understanding of violence and its remedies among the members of the organization. Discussion should always be encouraged regarding different ways for the Men Against Violence to have a more significant impact on the dilemma of violence at LSU.

Section 3. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the members in good standing shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business in any meeting of the organization. If 25% of the members are not present at the beginning of a meeting, the Executive Committee may establish quorum by an affirmative vote of 3/4 of its membership.

Section 4. The privilege of holding office, introducing motions, debating, and voting shall be limited to members in good standing with the organization.

Article IX: Parliamentary Authority

Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern the organization in all cases in which they are applicable.

Article X: Basic Policies

Section 1. No student who meets the other criteria for membership listed in this constitution may be denied membership on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, handicap, marital status, or veteran's status.

Section 2. To be eligible to be elected to, appointed to, or to hold an office or a committee chairmanship, a student must be enrolled as a full-time student and not be on university disciplinary or scholastic probation.

Section 3. All active, voting members must be students; non-student "associate" members must be LSU faculty or staff.

Section 4. The Men Against Violence shall cooperate with the University to support the improvement of education in ways that will not interfere with the administration of the University and shall not seek to control its policies.

Article XI: Amendments

This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the organization by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting, provided that notice of the proposed amendment shall have been given at the previous meeting and that the proposed amendment shall be subject to approval of the Committee on Student Organizations.

Article XII: Ratification

This constitution shall be ratified upon the approval of two-thirds of the charter members of the Men Against Violence present and voting, and after approval of the Committee on Student organizations. The original officers will be elected before the last meeting of the semester, but otherwise the constitution should go into effect immediately.

Ratified March 11, 1995.
Approved April 26, 1995.

Beginning a *Men Against Violence* Chapter on Your Campus

Where do you go to recruit a diverse group of men?

For the group's initial membership, it is important to select men from all walks of campus life, as well as men who are respected by their male peers and/or regarded as "cool." This may involve "handpicking" those male student leaders who have already displayed interest, commitment or leadership in the area of violence-reduction. Collaborating with other staff in student affairs, athletic coaches, etc., can assist in identifying such individuals. In addition, be sure to attend meetings of the following organizations to recruit men; many of the members in these organizations are already inclined to be involved in community change:

- Interfraternity Council/National Pan-Hellenic Council
- ROTC
- ambassadors
- resident assistants
- Student Government Association
- intercollegiate athletic teams
- service organizations (e.g., Rotaract, Pi Gamma Epsilon)
- graduate student organizations

Members are not required to be exceptional leaders in order to join; the average male student has a place in *Men Against Violence*. As such, group membership is open; there are no selection interviews. Furthermore, several members have themselves been involved with fights in the past, or have been victimized by violence. This type of membership erodes the stereotype that only "goody two shoes" do health education, and it even serves to increase the group's credibility. Ideally, members of *Men Against Violence* should represent a cross-section of the campus population. A group that is diverse in terms of race, ethnicity, age, individual interests, etc., will be its own best recruitment tool.

Finally, be sure to capitalize on mass media (television, radio, campus newspaper, fliers, electronic mail, etc.) to publicize the group and solicit members. *Men Against Violence* publishes and distributes its own newsletter each semester.

How do you motivate and maintain interest in the group?

Philosophy. Mentoring men can be successfully accomplished by either men or women; what is essential is to adapt your style of supervising to meet your group's membership. Most importantly, **you must genuinely believe in men as part of the solution to campus violence.** Too often, men have been pinpointed as the "bad guys" by health educators, particularly in the

area of rape prevention. Men must be empowered and trusted to do this work as equal partners with women. To attack men's ways or men's values only serves to alienate them. Rather, regard men as one of the best ways to educate and impact other men.

In training *Men Against Violence* members, more emphasis was placed on developing facilitation and process skills -- those necessary to leading honest, open and interactive discussions with male peers -- than on increasing knowledge or creating "experts." Rather, the advisor attends educational programs to provide the professional "expertise," thus allowing the male peers to be catalysts in breaking down cultural norms around violence. This approach is in keeping with a sociocultural model of community change. Through this educational process, many *Men Against Violence* members acquired consummate skill in asking the kinds of challenging questions which require men to reevaluate their own values and behaviors.

Note that educational approaches to rape and domestic violence prevention have traditionally focused on women's risk of victimization and individual strategies for reducing that risk. Few books, videos or pamphlets consider the issue of rape from a male vantage point. Nor do they capture the broader campus climate which enables both men and women to regard sexual aggression as normal and legitimate. Given this, it is important to examine your educational materials and perhaps revise or discard some of them in favor of ones which present a more equitable view of men's and women's responsibilities in preventing violence.

On many campuses, the vast majority of peer health educators are Caucasian females. As such, our strategies for training, advising and motivating such groups have been geared towards these types of students. Many men may have learning styles and psychological needs which differ from those of many women; similarly, students of color have different perspectives and valuable life experiences to bring to an organization.

The "Perks." As with all students, free food is a very effective motivational tool; refreshments are typically provided at all business meetings and educational programs. In addition, consistent and frequent publicity helps maintain the group's sense of pride in what they are accomplishing, as well as earns them self-esteem "kudos." The satisfaction of having made a difference and the opportunity to stand up for what they believe perhaps has been one of the most influential methods of motivating *Men Against Violence* members. Praise and acknowledgement by campus administrators also serve to maintain student interest.

Note that *Men Against Violence* is a volunteer, service organization; as such, its students receive no compensation (e.g., course credit).

Personal Benefits. Exposure to a broad array of older adult male role models who are also engaged in violence prevention work (in meetings and in programs) is appreciated by group members; these individuals can be found on-campus or from the surrounding community. This allows group members to benefit personally from *Men Against Violence*, as well.

Similarly, members are given leeway to become involved in the group in varying degrees. Some members merely attend meetings; others contribute to the newsletter; still others are actively involved in programming efforts. All efforts are appreciated. In addition, training

and programming address a wide variety of topics in order to meet varying needs and interest among members; these topics included:

- sexual assault and domestic violence
- racism and homophobia
- anger management and conflict resolution
- fighting and vandalism
- self-defense and assertiveness
- alcohol and other drug abuse.

All meetings and programs are highly interactive, and rely on discussion and multi-media techniques for maximum audience involvement. For many of the men in the group, participation in *Men Against Violence* has resulted in self-introspection into the areas of masculinity and manhood, sex-role socialization, feelings management, and healthy relationships with women.

Finally, the group has enabled individual members to develop non-competitive friendships with men whom they might not otherwise meet. In fact, a tangible cohesion has emerged among a diverse range of men who typically would not socialize with each other at LSU.

Evaluation. Written evaluations are conducted at the end of each semester to assess members satisfaction. Members are asked to give suggestions for improving the group, as well as for broadening the membership.

What can a group like *Men Against Violence* do for your campus?

Higher education institutions have always had difficulty attracting men to the field of student affairs/student services. *Men Against Violence* is an effective way of involving male students in active leadership roles on campus. Furthermore, such a group attracts a wide range of men, from those who are comfortable discussing feelings and vulnerabilities, as well as those who display the type of "machismo" we don't normally associate with student affairs professionals or health educators.

Having a *Men Against Violence* chapter demonstrates that your campus is proactively engaged in violence prevention efforts. To be successful, it requires the collaboration and ownership of numerous on-campus constituencies; as such, it serves to unite various campus departments through a common goal.

At LSU, *Men Against Violence* has grown tremendously in size and prestige in just one short year. Interestingly, the organization's T-shirt, with it's distinctive logo, has been one of the most effective ways of generating student interest; it has become a coveted item on campus and a symbol of pride for the men who wear it. While last year's group of officers were dynamic and committed, this year's Executive Board consists of young men who are hardworking, dedicated and more self-motivated; all of them were "groomed" by their first year's experience in the group.

Men Against Violence serves as a training ground for future community leaders in this area, and it encourages men to participate in an area of campus life that heretofore has been dominated by female students. Perhaps such a group's largest benefit is to bring together a diverse group of men and facilitate their honest, open dialogue about important social, political and health issues which affect the future of this country and of this world.

Lessons Learned from the Field

Advising and mentoring a men's group is a rewarding, refreshing experience which differs distinctly from working with women's groups, or coeducational groups.

As a female advising a men's group, I had to overcome my initial fears and feelings of inadequacies. After all, what could I possibly say that men would listen to? However, by being nonjudgmental and meeting this group of men on their terms, I was able to garner their trust and partnership. Start where men are ready to begin. In the formation stages of the organization, the students were primarily concerned with fighting, and how to walk away from a fight without appearing "wimpy." They weren't ready to discuss such personally threatening issues as homophobia or date rape; shoving these topics down their threats would have removed the ownership from the group's members.

In fulfilling their sex-role expectation, men tend to be more action-orientated, almost to the point of excess. The advisor's role is to rein in the excitement without curbing the motivation and commitment. Ask those challenging questions in order to get them to analyze their decisions, but give them the ownership in setting priorities and goals. Praise them genuinely when they succeed, support them when they hit roadblocks.

Additionally, all-male groups tend to refrain from normals rules of etiquette and propriety that might be engendered in mixed company. If you are easily offended by graphic, "in your face" street language, advising *Men Against Violence* is not for you. Imposing politically-correct standards for language may stifle the insightful dialogue that can occur between men, even as they are "letting it all hang out." In many cases, their bluntness and straightforwardness are qualities that women could benefit from, as well.

Finally, *Men Against Violence* offers hope that our society can eradicate violence. To have first-hand experience with a critical mass of men dedicated to improving themselves and to reducing campus violence renews your faith in health education, community action, and cultural change. Men care just as much as women do about stopping violence. Women cannot do this work alone; let's stop trying to.

We cannot effectively address rape and sexual assault prevention without addressing the entire continuum of violence, verbal and emotional to physical and sexual.

The power and control bases of all forms of violence also underlie the dynamics of sexual aggression, as well. Sex-role socialization of men and women play a major role in all types of violence, not just rape. Furthermore, dating rituals rooted in double-standards, institutionalized racism and homophobia, alcohol's linkages with both sex and violence, as well as social mores relative to status, privilege and power, are inseparably interconnected; together, they foster a culture which desensitizes us to violence, and legitimizes its use. Prevention messages must focus on reframing the entire scope of

attitudes, behaviors and values which currently render violence an appropriate alternative to meaningful connections and healthy communication between men, between women, and between men and women.

The most impactful prevention programs engage both men and women in their conceptualization, planning and implementation.

Violence has emerged as the dominant area of concern for Americans toady. Women have traditionally borne the responsibility for health education and violence prevention, in large part because they are the most visible victims of crimes such as sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking. However, when women direct and own all of the prevention efforts, the voices of men are frequently left out -- sometimes inadvertently, sometimes purposefully. Because men represent the majority of perpetrators of violence, their input and their realities must be interwoven into educational strategies and interventions in order for them to be effective. Men have a different perspective on the causes and outcomes of violence; this perspective is valuable and essential to developing impactful violence prevention programs.

Timeline: Forming a *Men Against Violence* Chapter

Date	Activity/Event
October 1994	Associate Director, Student Health Center approaches individuals in Division of Student Services and Athletic Department to serve as *Men Against Violence* (*MAV*) Advisory Board members.
November, 1994	*MAV* Advisory Board members meet for the first time. During a brainstorm session, group delineates the problem of campus violence (who, what, where, when, why) and identifies related issues (e.g, substance abuse).
December 1994	*MAV* Advisory Board members identify male student leaders from their respective units who might serve as potential charter members. Members individually solicit participation from these students.
January 1995	*MAV* Advisory Board meets to review the names of students who have agreed to become charter members, and to tentatively plan an organizational and planning retreat for charter members.
February 11, 1995	*MAV* charter members have their first organizational retreat in the International Cultural Center. The group begins by going through the same brainstorming process that the Advisory Board conducted. Tentative mission and goals for a *MAV* group are discussed.

Date	Activity/Event
February 1995-April 1995	MAV charter members meet on a bi-weekly basis at the Student Health Center to accomplish the following tasks: • write and ratify a constitution • seek official recognition as a student organization • design and print-up T-shirts • seek funding • elect the first Executive Board officers
April 5, 1995	*MAV* hosts its Kick-Off Ceremony in the LSU Union at which Gerry DiNardo, LSU Head Football Head Coach, is the keynote speaker. The group receive extensive coverage in The Daily Reveille, the campus newspaper. Approximately 100 students, staff, and media representatives were in attendance.
April 26, 1995	*MAV* receives official recognition as a student organization by the University. Its constitution is approved.
July 1995	MAV officers participate as panelists in a forum on campus violence, hosted by Alpha Phi Alpha, Inc., Nu Psi Chapter, in the African-American Cultural Center.

Spring 1996 Training Retreat Schedule

Friday, February 23rd, 4:30-11:00 PM
Room 284, LSU Student Health Center

Time	Topic	Facilitator/Speaker
4:30-4:45	Welcome & Introductions	
4.45-5:00	**Mission and Goals of *Men Against Violence***	*MAV* Executive Board: **Gabe Northern**, *Coordinator* **Ruark Chick**, *Chair of Awareness* **David Hagstad**, *Chair of Community Action* **Sheddrick Wilson**, *Chair of Education* **Jody Plauche'**, *Chair of Support* **Ben Baldwin**, *Secretary* **Carlos Turcios**, *Treasurer* **Chad Lemoine**, *Public Relations Director*
5:00-5:30	Workshop: **Learning to Play as a Team**	**Beetle Bailey**, *Assistant to the Director*, LSU Athletic Department & *former Assistant Coach*, LSU Baseball
5:30-6:00	**The Scope of Campus Violence: Who, When, Where, What, Why** • types of violence • alcohol and other drugs • victims and perpetrators	**Mark Shaw**, *Captain*, LSU Police Department
6:00-6:30	DINNER	N/A
6:30-7:30	Discussion: **Defining Manhood, Defining Masculinity -- Who are the Real Men?** • Stereotypes of Men • Homophobia • The Traps of Machismo	**Philip Bennett**, Ph.D., *Director*, Habit Break
7:30-8:00	**Addressing the Needs of Victims of Violence**	**Drayton Vincent**, BCSW, *Clinical Social Worker*, LSU Mental Health Service

8:00-8:15	BREAK	N/A
8:15-9:15	Forum: **Black Men, White Men -- Finding Common Ground**	**Kirt Bennett**, *Executive Director*, Young Leaders Academy and *former SG President*, LSU
9:15-10:00	Video Viewing: **Breaking Down Rape Culture -- Men As Prevention Agents**	**Luoluo Hong**, MPH, *Coordinator*, LSU Wellness Education Department
10:00-10:45	Skills-Building: **Conflict Intervention and Male Assertiveness**	**George Thompson**, *3rd Degree Black Belt*, Tae-Kwon-Do Plus
10:45-11:00	Closing: **Where Do We Go From Here? & Evaluations**	

Final 2/21/96.

Fall 1995 Semester Report

Executive Board

There were 57 members of *Men Against Violence* (*MAV*) during this semester. The Fall 1995 officers who comprised the Executive Board were: Gabe Northern, *Coordinator*; Ruark Chick, *Chair of Awareness*; David Hagstad, *Chair of Community Action*; Sheddrick Wilson, *Chair of Education*; Jody Plauche', *Chair of Support*; Lionel Jackson, *Secretary*; Carlos Turcios, *Treasurer*; Chad Lemoine, *Public Relations Director*; and Luoluo Hong, *Advisor*.

Executive Board members met on Mondays on the following dates: September 4, October 2, October 9, October 23, October 30, November 6, November 13 and November 27.

Treasurer's Report

MAV began the semester with a budget of $569.60. At the semester's end, the account balance was depleted as a result of programming expenses. Funds for the organization consisted of dues payments by active members, revenue from T-shirt sales, and donations from Interfraternity Council, Panhellenic Council, Student Government, Student Health Center and Tiger Athletic Foundation.

Media and Publicity

MAV was mentioned in an August 4, 1995 article in **The Chronicle of Higher Education**. Members staffed a member recruitment table on Tuesday, September 12 in conjunction with the Student Organization Fair. At least once a day throughout the semester,

KLSU radio listeners heard an anti-violence public service announcement created by Joachim Vogeler.

WBRZ-TV Channel 2's Sunday, October 1st edition of the **Inside LSU Football** sports show spotlighted Gabe Northern and described his leadership role in *MAV*, as well as publicized the group's mission. Gabe Northern and David Hagstad of the Executive Board appeared on WVLA-TV Channel 33's morning show **AM Sunday** hosted by Jeanne Burns to talk about *MAV*'s mission on December 3, 1995, seen WVLA-TV Channel 33.

Collaborative Relationships

Jody Plauche' attended monthly meetings of the **Safer Campus Committee** as the *MAV*

representative. This committee is convened by Tom Risch, Assistant Vice-Chancellor for Student Services/Dean of Students. Additionally, *MAV* members were actively involved with program planning and implementation for **LSU-SU Students United Against Violence**, a cross-campus collaboration to combat violence and substance abuse, as well as foster respect and tolerance. Key events of this project included a **Kick-Off Ceremony** on October 2 at the Riverside Centroplex; a tailgate preceding the November 29 **LSU vs. Southern basketball game**; and a halftime show in the Pete Maravich Assembly Center, "Shots for Peace," at this same game.

Educational Programming

MAV was one of the co-sponsors for **Safety & Rape Awareness Week**, September 11-15, 1995. As a result, members facilitated a conflict resolution workshop for men entitled "Is Liquid Courage Getting You Into Hot Water?" on Monday, September 11 Five *MAV* members conducted a series of four role play scenarios to demonstrate effective techniques for diffusing fights and other potentially violent situations. Approximately 15 students attended the workshop, which was held in the Student Recreational Sports Complex. In addition, the **Daily Reveille** covered the event in a front page article of its September 12, 1995 issue. At the Tuesday, September 12 panel discussion held in the LSU Union, "What Every Woman Should Know Before the First Home Football Game," David Hagstad assisted in providing sexual assault risk-reduction information to over 100 sorority women.

Forty individuals attended the Power Hall anti-violence workshop conducted by *MAV* on October 9, 1995. The interactive workshop again consisted of role play scenarios regarding conflict management. On October 11, 1995, *MAV* jointly sponsored **LIMBO & LUAU** during **Substance Abuse Awareness Week** with the Student Health Advocates and the Student Initiatives of the LSU Alliance. This street-fair activity involved educational information about alcohol-related health risk, including violence. About 750 students participated in this very successful event.

On Thursday, November 9 *MAV* hosted a **Forum on Racism and Violence** in the International Cultural Center. Over 60 LSU and Southern University students and staff were on hand to engage in lively discussion about racism, violence and prejudice on college campuses and in American society. LSU-TV filmed the entire program and aired it on the campus cable network.

Two fraternities requested acquaintance rape education workshops for their members. Programs for Lambdi Chi Alpha Fraternity and Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity were delivered on Tuesday, November 14 and Monday, November 20 respectively. Written evaluations produced strong positive feedback for both workshops, which reached 90 men in total.

The semester concluded with a business meeting held on Saturday, December 2, 1995 to plan for the Spring 1996 semester. Members brainstormed future ideas for educational outreach and increasing member participation, including:

- becoming part of resident assistants' training;
- hosting regular film showings with discussion afterwards;
- more frequent general *MAV* meetings (every other Saturday), in addition to weekly Executive Board meetings;
- promotion of *MAV* meetings via electronic mail;
- collaborating with the Graduate Student Association;
- targeting other athletic teams such as basketball and baseball, as well as the fraternities;
- co-sponsoring events with the Student Union Council;
- conducting a training retreat for members interested in facilitating educational workshops in late January or early February;
- establishing a brother chapter of *MAV* at Southern University; and
- soliciting funds from the Residence Hall Association, as well as additional corporate sponsors.

Submitted December 15, 1995.

Spring 1996 Semester Report

Executive Board

There were 96 members of *Men Against Violence* (*MAV*) during this semester. The Spring 1996 officers who comprised the Executive Board were: Gabe Northern, *Coordinator*; Ruark Chick, *Chair of Awareness*; David Hagstad, *Chair of Community Action*; Sheddrick Wilson, *Chair of Education*; Jody Plauche', *Chair of Support*; Ben Baldwin, *Secretary*; Carlos Turcios, *Treasurer*; Chad Lemoine, *Public Relations Director*; and Luoluo Hong, *Advisor*.

Executive Board members met on Mondays on the following dates: January 22nd, January 29th, February 5th, February 12th, February 26th, March 4th, March 18th, March 25th, April 8th, and April 22nd.

Treasurer's Report

MAV ended the semester with a budget of $532.24. Funds for the organization consisted of dues payments by active members, revenue from T-shirt sales, and donations from the Interfraternity Council and Kappa Alpha Fraternity.

Media and Publicity

MAV members staffed a member recruitment table on Wednesday, January 31st in conjunction with the Student Organization Fair. At least once a day throughout the semester, KLSU radio listeners heard an anti-violence public service announcement created by Joachim Vogeler; the PSA featured the voice of Kevin Ward from the LSU Baseball Team.

A Spring 1996 newsletter entitled **Noenum Violentus** was published and distributed throughout the semester in the Student Recreational Sports Complex, in the LSU Union lobby, and in Johnston Hall. The newsletter contained articles written by *MAV* members, as well as a calendar of events.

In the Thursday, May 2, 1996, issue of **The Daily Reveille**, an ad appeared, thanking the 1995-1996 Executive Board officers for their service during the 1995-1996 year, and congratulating the newly elected 1996-1997 Executive Board.

During May 29 - June 1, 1996, Jody Plauche' attended the **American College Health Association's 1996 Annual Meeting** in Orlando, FL. He and Luoluo Hong served as panelists for a program entitled, "Working Together to Change the Rape and Violence Culture."

Collaborative Relationships

Damon Hewitt and Roderick Smothers were the *MAV* representatives to the *Student Community Action Team* of **LSU&SU Students United Against Violence**. This group sponsored a very successful event on Sunday, March 3rd between 1:00-5:00 PM at the LSU Parade Grounds, the **1st Annual Spring Sports Fest & Jambalaya**. As a result of MAV's involvement with *S.C.A.T.*, a fledgling chapter of Men Against Violence was established on Southern University's campus through the Men's Federation, Student Government Association.

Chad Lemoine served as a student member of the **Student Health Center Search Committee** for a new Wellness Education Coordinator during April 1996.

Educational Programming

MAV officers conducted an in-service for members of the Student Health Advocates on Wednesday, January 31 at their weekly meeting. In an effort at soliciting membership and participation from social fraternities, Gabe Northern and Jody Plauche' attended the Tuesday, February 13th meeting of the Interfraternity Council.

The first *MAV* **Training Retreat** was held on Friday, February 23rd from 4:30-11:00 PM in Room 284 of the LSU Student Health Center. A total of 35 *MAV* members and several students from Southern University were in attendance. Guest speakers included: Beetle Bailey, Assistant to the Director, LSU Athletic Department; Mark Shaw, Captain, LSU Police Department; Kirt Bennett, Executive Director, Young Leaders Academy; Philip Bennett, Director, Habit Break; Drayton Vincent, Clinical Social Worker, LSU Mental Health Service; and George Thompson, 3rd degree black belt, Tae-Kwon-Do Plus. The first edition of the training manual was also distributed at this event.

MAV conducted several workshops throughout the semester for residence halls and fraternities. Topics covered ranged from conflict resolution and racism, to fighting and date rape. Programs took place for the following groups: Kirby-Smith Hall on Tuesday, February 27th (15 attendees); Power Hall on Tuesday, March 26th (20 attendees); Broussard Hall on Wednesday, April 10th (12 attendees); and Kappa Alpha Fraternity on Wednesday, April 24th (60 attendees). In addition, four *MAV* representatives spoke to 45 African-American youths in fourth grade about the importance of self-respect, academic achievement, and leadership; this community service project for Young Leaders' Academy occurred on Saturday, March 23rd.

MAV staffed an educational and recruitment booth at the **Wellness Fair**, held on Tuesday, April 16th from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM in the Ballroom of the LSU Union. Bandaids, along with educational brochures and fliers, were distributed to symbolize the theme of "Heal Hearts, Heal Communities."

On Wednesday, April 17th *MAV* hosted a **Forum on Racism and Violence II: Seeking Solutions** in the International Cultural Center. This was a follow-up to last semester's very

successful event. Twenty-five men came together and developed an action plan for promoting greater understanding among students and reducing racial conflict on LSU's campus.

General business meetings occurred on Saturday, January 27th; Saturday, February 10th; Tuesday, March 5th; Wednesday, March 20th; and Saturday, April 13th. The semester concluded with a business meeting held on Saturday, April 28th. Certificates of appreciation were distributed to members of the Executive Board and to general members who displayed exemplary service to *MAV* (Ofori Agboka, Cle'Mons Henderson, Damon Hewitt, Troy Lester, Roderick Smothers and Joachim Vogeler).

Submitted May 3, 1996.

Male program plans to combat violent activity

By TRACE PURVIS
Reveille Staff Writer

Campus violence has a new enemy.

Men Against Violence is holding its first meeting Wednesday at 8 p.m. in the Vieux Carre Room of the Union.

The keynote speaker of the inaugural event will be LSU football coach Jerry DiNardo. DiNardo will be delivering his views on campus violence and the role men play in its perpetration and prevention.

As stated in its constitution, the purpose of Men Against Violence is to lessen the number and severity of violent acts within the campus population. The constitution also calls for the promotion of the establishment of similar organizations at other universities.

"We noticed the problem with violence on campus," said Gabe Northern, the coordinator of the group. "The problem concerns physical and verbal violence."

Stephen Moret, former SG president and Men Against Violence member, said the concept of the organization came from a meeting of faculty and administrators who felt violent acts were so prevalent on campus that a campus group had to be formed to specifically combat it.

"Since men are often the perpetrators of violence, they decided to let men take the leadership of the group," Moret said. "However, our meetings are open to anyone."

Chad Lemoine, public relations director of the organization, said Men Against Violence is the first organization of its kind in the Southeast and one of four or five in the entire country.

He said this caused problems at first in organizing the functions of the group.

"We went in with our eyes closed," Lemoine said. "Now this has turned into a selling point of the organization."

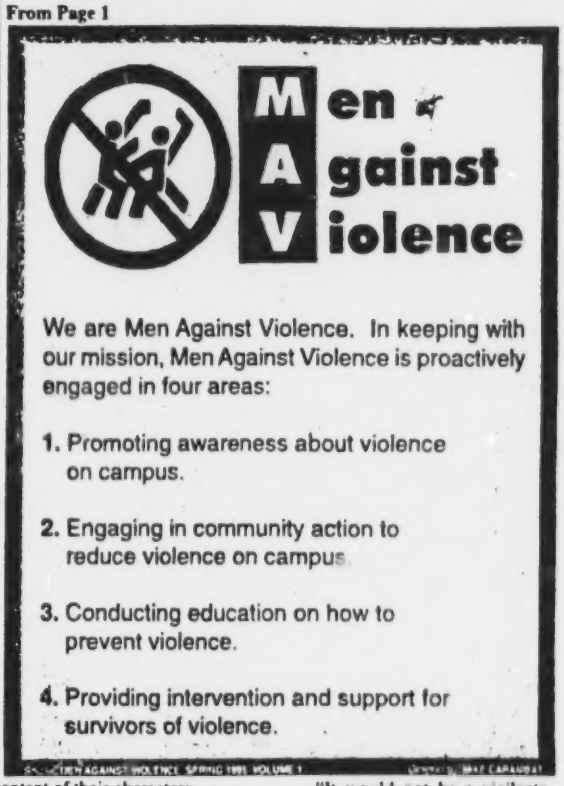
The membership of Men Against Violence currently consists of a 20-man charter group. Northern said these members were initially asked to join because of the

See VIOLENCE, page 7

The Daily Reveille, 5 April 1995

VIOLENCE

From Page 1


Men
Against
Violence
We are Men Against Violence. In keeping with our mission, Men Against Violence is proactively engaged in four areas:
1. Promoting awareness about violence on campus.
2. Engaging in community action to reduce violence on campus.
3. Conducting education on how to prevent violence.
4. Providing intervention and support for survivors of violence.

content of their characters.

"A group of people came together and selected leaders on campus that would represent the group well," Northern said.

Moret said the leadership of the group has really shown in the speed of their preparations. Since their first meeting at the beginning of the semester, he said the members have been active in securing funds for the organization.

"We already have donations from many LSU and Baton Rouge groups," Moret said. "Right now we are using the money to pay for ads and T-shirts for the kickoff meeting. But after that, we want to start programs to really help victims of violence."

The organizations' constitution recognizes four things that have to be done if the group is to reduce violence on campus. A committee will manage the efforts to satisfy each area. The constitution calls for communication on the scope of violence within the campus community. Lemoine said recognizing that violence is a problem is key to any efforts to reduce it.

"We want to publicize things more so that people see that this is a real problem," Lemoine said. "We do not want people to see violence on T.V. and think that it is everyday stuff."

Another area of concentration is community action designed to reduce violence. Lemoine said the organization will support any such action, like establishing a neighborhood watch during football games.

"It would not be a vigilante thing. It would allow for the reporting of violent acts to the police," Lemoine said. He also said conducting educational functions on violence and how to prevent it, is also a concern of the organization.

"A lot of people do not realize that the things they do are violent and have an adverse effect on people," Lemoine said.

Another goal Men Against Violence wants to accomplish is to provide support services of violence survivors. Lemoine said such places help the survivor to get on with their lives. "We want to start things like rape crisis centers and neighborhood watch programs," Lemoine said. "They provide places where survivors can get things off their chests."

The organization is run through the Student Health Center. Center coordinator Luoluo Hong serves as the organization's advisor, helping out with funding, publicity, and motivation. She said Men Against Violence represents a new direction in the fight against violence.

"When it comes to violence, we often target programs toward women. Men get painted as the bad guys," Hong said. "Men can offer a different perspective on violence."

Hong indicated that the focus on women comes from the fact that men initiate most acts of violence. Hong said forming a group of men concerned with reducing violence can go a long way toward alleviating the problem.

"It makes a powerful statement," Hong said.

AFRICA

From Page 1

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

RICHARD ZEIGLER/the Daily Reveille

...ner will be in the SG presidential ...ions.

with 957 votes, or 45.6 percent. Hightower/Brady received 663 votes for 31.6 percent.

"We're very excited about getting in the runoff — we're ready to take the issues to the students, and can't wait until next Wednesday," ...

...passed. The highly-debated Union referendum passed with 965 votes for 54.8 percent. The graduate school referendum passed with 67 votes, or 61.5 percent.

The outright winners were:

Wendy McMahon - University ... Tiffany Pitre - Arts & Sciences Vice President

Courtney Kaufman - Arts & Sciences Secretary

See SG, page 5

Anti-violence group holds meeting

Gerry DiNardo addresses Men Against Violence

By TRACE PURVIS
Reveille Staff Writer

Men Against Violence, the newly-formed student organization that strives to reduce violence on campus, held its inaugural meeting last night in the Union's Vieux Carre Room.

Organization Coordinator Gabe Northern started the event by giving some background on the group. He said the chartering members are pulled together by a common cause.

"We are a group of people that came together from all different groups on campus," Northern said. "We came together to reduce instances of violence on campus."

The keynote speaker of the night was LSU head football coach Gerry DiNardo. He gave a short speech that praised the existence of Men Against Violence.

"When I was your age, there would be nothing like this," DiNardo said. "Date rape and violence would not be discussed. The good old days were not so good."

DiNardo explained many of the violence problems in today's society are rooted in the home. He said the home is the place to direct efforts to reduce violence.

"If you have been in a home with violence, it is an opportunity to break the cycle," DiNardo said. "If you are from a home without violence, it is a chance to continue the trend."

DiNardo ended the speech by citing leadership as important in stopping violence. Adversity, he said, is the measuring stick of leadership.

"You are a part of this group because you know it is good," DiNardo said. "When you are tested, keep that in mind."

Northern retook the podium to talk about what violence is. He used his personal experience in a bar fight during his freshman year to illustrate the physical aspects of violence. He then talked about how words can be just as painful as blows.

"Since I have been a football player, we have had some losing seasons here," Northern said. "We (the team) have been the victim of some verbal violence."

Northern then introduced Luolou Hong, coordinator of the Wellness Center. She commended the charter members for starting the organization.

See DINARDO, page 6

RICHARD ZEIGLER/The Daily Reveille

Head football coach Gerry DiNardo spoke at the first meeting of Men Against Violence Wednesday night in the Union.

DINARDO

From Page 1

"It has been a thrill working with them," Hong said. "We owe a lot to these men for the courage they have shown in stepping forward."

Following her comments, Hong showed a film clip of the film "Thelma and Louise" in which Susan Sarandon's character kills a man after stopping a him from raping Geena Davis.

Hong said the clip was meant to show what part men play in violent acts.

"Men are the ones who rape. Men are the ones who beat each other up," Hong said. "It is obvious they need a clue."

Hong also said that women have a responsibility in stopping violence as well, but since most programs aimed at reducing violence are focused on women, men need to take a more active role.

"All these young men are taking a stand that they have a responsibility," Hong said. "It is time to let them step forward."

The rest of the time was spent outlining how the organization is going to battle campus violence. The group will focus on four areas that they believe are key to the effort.

The group wants to promote awareness of violence on campus, engage in community action that reduces violence, conduct education on how to prevent violence and provide intervention and support for survivors of violence.

A committee will be designated the task of fulfilling the organization's ideals in each area.

Membership to Men Against Violence requires filling out a brief form and paying a $10 membership fee.

The next meeting of the organization is set for April 22.

Man deceives students through Co-Op

The Daily Reveille, 6 April 1995

By PETE TATTERSALL
Reveille Staff Writer

29

Student complaints to the Career Planning, Placement and Co-Op Center about an employment recruiter misrepresenting jobs, Fiber said.

According to Fiber, students' resumes are submitted to the center, and then forwarded to prospective employers.

Employers then contact the center in order to arrange interviews with the students they are interested in.

to meet them, individually, in the lobby of hotels, either the Plantation Inn, the Sterling Crown Suites or the Hilton, Fiber said.

One of the LSU students who interviewed with the recruiter met him in the lobby of the Crown Sterling Suites.

to make a six figure income working two or three nights a week for two to five years.

"And then he basically asked, 'Will you do anything to make that money?', and at that point I assumed he would want money from me," Brad said.

30

Forum examines basis of violence

Fraternity seeks solutions to fundraising party clashes

By MELISSA DOVE
Reveille Staff Writer

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity held a forum Tuesday night in the African-American Cultural Center to discuss violence on campus in response to the violence which occurred at two of their seven fundraising dances in 1995.

Roderick Smothers, president of Alpha Phi Alpha, and Luoluo Hong, coordinator of the Wellness Center, opened the meeting by asking University officials and student leaders present what they think are the main causes of violence on campus.

Several causes were identified by the group.

Gabe Northern, coordinator for Men Against Violence and defensive end for the LSU football team, said he has noticed the atmosphere at a black function is different from the atmosphere at a white function, especially for the football players.

"When we have a social function, such as the dance, it's a different atmosphere at a black function," Northern said.

"They (white people) never try to fight with football players," Northern said.

It is as if the black students want to test the football players, he said.

Northern said the football players would never fight each other in public, but sometimes they end up feeling like they have to defend themselves against others.

"Some people feel jealous. We end up trying to defend ourselves, we end up trying to protect our friends," Northern said.

Several students mentioned alcohol as the source of the problem.

"We don't allow alcohol at our events, but that doesn't stop them from drinking before-hand," Smothers said.

Dr. Huel D. Perkins, executive assistant to the chancellor and advisor for Alpha Phi Alpha, said the problem lies within the people involved.

"It's not alcohol as much as it's low self-esteem. Nobody who fights in public has any respect for himself," Perkins said.

Perkins also said the problem is not only an LSU problem.

"There is animosity between town and gown every place a university exists," said Perkins. "This is not an LSU problem, and it's not really a racial problem."

John Jurnigan, associate director of the Union, noted five out of the seven dances held this year were without incident.

It was also discussed whether non-LSU guests should be allowed at the parties. However, Latrisa Wedgeworth, president of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, pointed out it is LSU students who have been involved in the altercations.

Wedgeworth said the sororities and fraternities should be more firm.

"We as Greeks, especially as black Greeks because we give public functions, have to get together and say we're not going to take it," Wedgeworth said.

Thomas J. Risch, assistant vice chancellor and dean of students, agreed something needs to be done to solve this problem.

"We can't allow people to bring in society's problems and act them out on our campus," Risch said.

Several solutions to the problem of violence were discussed, including having bouncers at the dances and repositioning the police officers present. However, the group overwhelmingly agreed the answer is education.

"Cops intervening is after-the-fact. A cop isn't going to be the one to prevent anything," Hong said.

The group of student leaders agreed the most effective means of preventing violence is to raise the consciousness of the student body. They said the best way to accomplish this is for them to bring the message back to their respective organizations.

They also suggested a weekly freshman assembly to discuss issues around campus, including violence.

Smothers said he would like to see this happen.

According to Smothers, Alpha Phi Alpha was instrumental in arranging meetings with the Union, dean of students, the Office of Greek Affairs and the Greek organizations in the spring and summer of 1994 to set up regulations, allowing social functions to be held in the Union once again. Social functions were banned from 1992-1994.

Smothers said he thinks membership in such groups as Men Against Violence will increase.

David Hagstad, coordinator of support for Men Against Violence, said the group will sponsor several events in the fall, designed to raise students' awareness about violence.

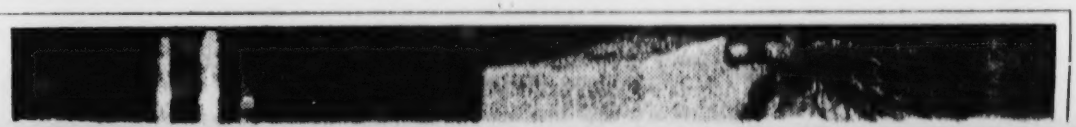
CHRIS BAYNARD/T he Daily Reveille

David Hagstad, chairman of Men Against Violence, participated in a forum that was centered on violence at fraternity functions. The forum was sponsored by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and was held Tuesday night in the African-American Cultural Center

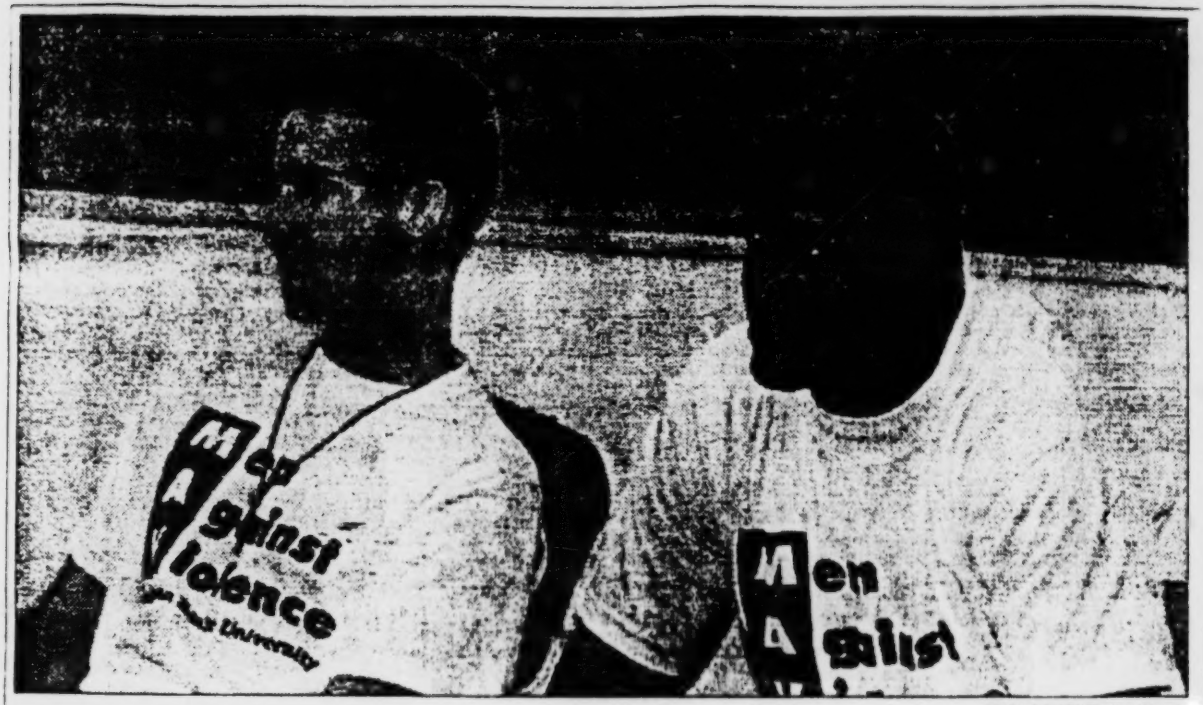
The Daily Reveille 20 July 1995

Landrieu speaks to La. Youth

Seminar on leadership skills



The Daily Reveille, 12 September 1995



DANIEL DODSON/The Daily Reveille

David Hagstad and Gabe Northern, charter members of LSU's Men Against Violence, participate in role-playing skits depicting potentially violent situations.

Speaker advises group on ways to curb violence

By MELISSA DOVE
Reveille Staff Writer

Men Against Violence kicked off Safety and Rape Awareness Week last night at the Student Recreational Sports Complex with a discussion on the problem of campus violence.

The guest moderator was Steve Robichaux, advisor for the LSU Karate Club, who taught the small group of men and women present what he has learned from years of being a karate instructor.

Several charter members of Men Against Violence participated in role-playing skits depicting potentially violent situations, and the group discussed ways to avoid escalation of these situations.

Robichaux said Men Against Violence is a much needed organization.

"There's this idea man bad, woman good," Robichaux said, pointing out while men are more often participants in violent encounters, power entails responsibility.

Robichaux said television plays a role in the way society views violence. He said violence is often glorified in the movies, pointing out how martial arts movies portray the victor as "cool."

"That's not what violence is," said Robichaux. "If you've been through a real violent encounter, you know there's nothing glorious or pretty about it."

Robichaux said most violent encounters follow a pattern.

First, he said a target must be available.

"You gotta be available in order to be a victim," he said.

Next comes the test, according to Robichaux. He said a perpetrator will try to get the easiest target he can find.

"It has nothing to do with size, it has to do with attitude," said Robichaux. "He will watch how you handle yourself."

Robichaux said once he issues a threat, he has crossed the line legally. The next step, said Robichaux, will be physical contact.

Robichaux said the most dangerous part of a violent encounter is the take-off.

"This is where they decide whether to leave a witness," he said.

Robichaux pointed out fighting is motivated by fear. He said the best defense is a good offense.

"The person who throws the first punch is the one who is the most afraid," he said.

However, he pointed out, everyone is afraid.

"People who say they're not afraid are lying," said Robichaux. "Or they're a psychopath."

Other than fear, the group identified a lack of courtesy as a cause of violence in the '90s.

"I am old as dirt. I can remember the '60s," said Beetle Bailey, assistant to the Athletic Director. "The difference between the '50s and the '90s? Common courtesy."

Robichaux agreed acknowledging another person can solve disputes.

"Acknowledging people as

See VIOLENCE, page 15

VIOLENCE

From Page 1

'somebody' will get you out of trouble 90 percent of the time," Robichaux said.

Another thing the group discussed was how to break up a fight. Robichaux stressed the need to be stern. "You run the risk of getting hurt when you break up a fight," Robichaux said.

In spite of this, he said to remember they really want to stop fighting as long as they can save face.

"They want to get out with their ego and their teeth," he said.

One source of conflict the group discussed was fighting over dates. The group agreed respecting a date will help solve the problem.

"When you think of your date that way [like property], you end up having to fight a lot of stuff," said Robichaux. "Is this an equal partnership or something you parade around town? Get a car, man."

Robichaux commended Men Against Violence for their efforts, and encouraged them to keep going. "Don't get depressed if we don't have a thousand people here, be encouraged because of the people that are here," he said.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Men Against Violence group discusses rape issues

By KRISTI GOINES
Reveille Staff Writer

Rape in all forms was the topic of discussion among the University's Men Against Violence organization Tuesday evening at the African-American Cultural Center.

The meeting is an effort to make the campus community aware of violence and learn how to cope with it, according to Men Against Violence Coordinator Gabe Northern.

The group watched the rest of Peter Jennings' documentary entitled "Men, Sex, and Rape," and discussed issues that arose from the documentary.

Men are not aware of the threat of rape and the trauma that results from rape, according to two policemen in the documentary.

Another policeman believes stricter punishments should be placed on men who rape.

Another fact mentioned in the documentary is over 50 percent of men said they have never sexually harassed a woman; however, there is still a minority of men who rape women.

Jennings stated at the end of the documentary men who rape women cause women to be on guard. Accordingly, women say only men can stop this violence against them.

Rape is an act of violence, and it takes men to stop men from committing this act, according to Northern.

> **"When it comes to rape, when a woman says no, she means no. If a man cannot respect that, he's not much of a man."**
>
> BEN BALDWIN
> *Men Against Violence secretary*

Ben Baldwin, Men Against Violence's secretary, said it fills him with disgust to know that men rape women, because he has never encountered someone close to him who was a victim of rape.

Some college women will have sex with the man who raped them because they feel there's no use in fighting, said Luoluo Hong, coordinator of the Wellness Education Department.

Northern cited one situation where a girl's body language may be a determining factor on whether she consents to sexual activity.

If a girl's body language is misunderstood, it is best to take it as a no, Northern said.

Alcohol also plays a major role in date rape, as drunkenness can lead to sexual misconduct, Northern added.

A male that a woman knows is just as likely to rape her as is a complete stranger, according to Hong.

However, women are less likely to report a rape committed by someone they know, she added.

Duval Euland brought up the incident in which Mike Tyson was charged with raping a young beauty queen when she went to his hotel room late one night.

Even though it may not have been wise for the young lady to go to Tyson's room late at night, Tyson was still wrong in having sex with her if he committed the act against her will, according to Northern.

"Sometimes we look for that two o'clocker. But if that two o'clocker says no, she means no," Northern said.

"When it comes to rape, when a woman says no, she means no. If a man cannot respect that, he's not much of a man," Baldwin summarized.

For more information regarding *Men Against Violence*, please contact:

Luoluo Hong, M.P.H., Wellness Education Coordinator/Advisor, *MAV*
Louisiana State University
Room 234C, Student Health Center
Infirmary Road
Baton Rouge, LA 70803-2401
ph: (504) 388-1400
fax: (504) 388-5655
e-mail: *lhong@tiger.lsu.edu*